

The Board Talk

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March 2000

1st California Ladies' Amateur Tourney a Success!

By Jane Mourgos

The Old Town Saloon in Livermore, California, hosted the Inaugural Amateur Ladies' Shuffleboard Tournament on Jan. 14-16. Many of the ladies experienced their first tournament in Y2K and, for others, their first tournament ever. With total prize money over \$8,300, it was a hard-fought battle for some, and learning experiences for others. This tournament was filled with double back flips (really!) and lots of "attitude adjustments." The participants combined strong, competitive shuffleboard with fun, hugs, emotions, and friendship!



Jolene Lembke (right), 1st, and Lorraine Bingham, 2nd, celebrate their victories in the Div. I singles. Jane Mourgos finished in third place.



In the Div. II singles, Betty Hudson took top honors, with Helen Martin in second place.

Other money winners in the Div. II singles were: Carol Thissen, 3rd; Manny Canada, 4th; Nancy Maraschini and Vicki Hunt, 5th and 6th.



In the A/B draw partner, the winners were Evie Werner and Jolene Lembke.

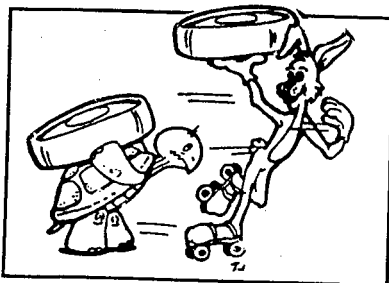
Others in the winners' circle were Betty Hudson and Linda Churchman, 2nd; Shari Hudson and Manny Canada, 3rd; Chris Brown and Vicki Hunt, 4th.



Most of the tournament gang at this inaugural event at the Old Town Saloon, Livermore, California.

Many thanks to Linda Churchman and Manny Canada of Phoenix, Arizona, who received special prizes for traveling the farthest. Also thanks to the Southern California gals (Chris Brown, Evie

(continued on Page 7)



Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

More Accolades for Houston Holiday Open and Thanks from the Bowers

Ron and I attended the Houston Holiday Open again this year and had a wonderful time. It was great seeing old faces and some new ones, too. The facilities at the Marriott were outstanding; I think a lot better than last year. The ballroom where the boards were set up had a lot more room for playing and watching. As usual, the tournament directors did a great job, along with all of their helpers.

Diana Hagen got inducted into the Texas Hall of Fame, which was well-deserved. I learned a lot from Diana over the years, and so have many other players. Congratulations and thanks for showing those guys that women can play, too!

Ron and I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of those who sent in donations in the past and also the most recent sent in which include: Bob and Vicki Hunt, Dick Gorman, Frank Zavala, Andy Brorsen and Bob Brunskill.

We had three major contributions sent to us by the Houston Holiday Open, the Southwest Open, and The Shuffleboard Federation.

We would also like to thank Lynda French once again for all her work on the shuffleboard website.

Thanks so much to all of you.

Debbie Bowers, Austin, Texas

We join you in saluting those who have contributed to your "cause." The Bowers Rating System has had a dramatic impact on the growth of shuffleboard

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and deserves the support of ALL shufflers. Everyone scrambles for a copy of the latest ratings, but so few realize the time and expense that goes into its publication and mailing. We urge all our subscribers to make a donation to the Bowers Rating System, Ron & Debbie Bowers, 1111 Byers Lane, Austin, TX 78753.

And, if you haven't yet tuned into the Bowers shuffleboard website, we encourage you to do so: www.jump.net/~ronbowers

We have gotten to know Lynda French via e-mail and there is no doubt that she is one talented lady. We look forward to working with her in her new position as secretary of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

Thanks from Diana....

Hard as it is to believe, I was at a loss for words at my recent induction into the Texas Hall of Fame. I wanted to thank my good friends, Bobby, Brian, Johnny Wayne, Harvey and Glen, for all the nice things they had to say about me (they better have meant it, too!). I want to thank my teachers -- Howard, Billy Mays, Glen, Sam, and Dale. Thanks, Sam, for taking me a long time ago and carrying me to my first doubles win. Thanks to all my other great partners and teammates over the years for getting me into the winner's circle. Thanks to all the other greats, Darrol, Bill, David, Bobby V, Hal and John. I learned a lot just from watching you guys.

It was such a great honor and I thank everyone so much! I will treasure it forever.

Diana Hagen, Houston, Texas

The major reason this sport of ours enjoys such good health today has been its teachers. You are one of those, Diana, and your induction was a very well-deserved honor. You have been an inspiration to many people (including us) throughout The World of Shuffleboard!

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Publication Content Information

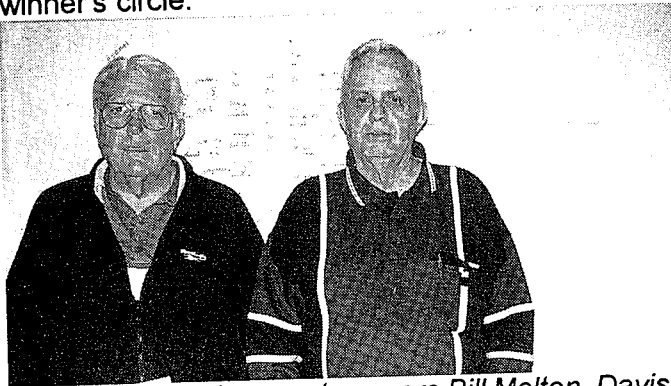
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Rena Fleming is Oklahoma State Champ

By Don Crall

The Oklahoma State Championships were held at the American Legion Post 73 in Del City on Jan. 14-16. The event was open to all shufflers this year and started out with a draw partner on Friday night.

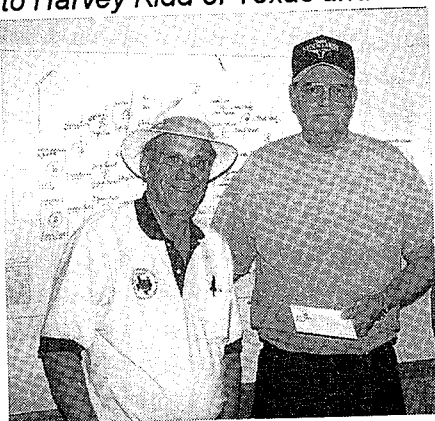
They came, they came, and they just kept coming. We were expecting from 30-36 players for this event and had seven boards set up for the 2 out of 3 format. We ended up with 58 entries and had to set up four more boards! Leon Black drove down from Michigan. Harvey Walden motor-homed over from Tennessee. Several friends from Texas came up across the Red River, many ending up in the winner's circle.



Winners of the draw partner were Bill Melton, Davis, Oklahoma, and Jim (JFK) Kennedy of Tulsa, Ok.



Director Jack Davis presents second place monies to Harvey Kidd of Texas and Cliff Goff of Tulsa.

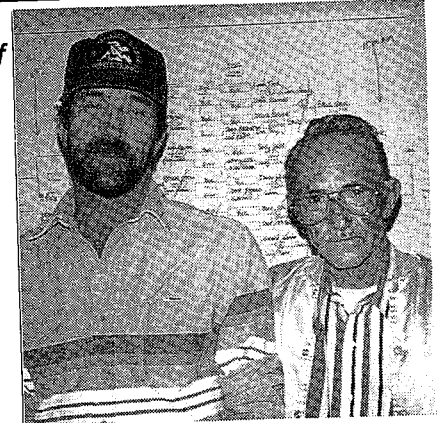


Johnny Ballard of Texas drew Jerry Widdoes of Tulsa to take third place in the field of 29 teams.

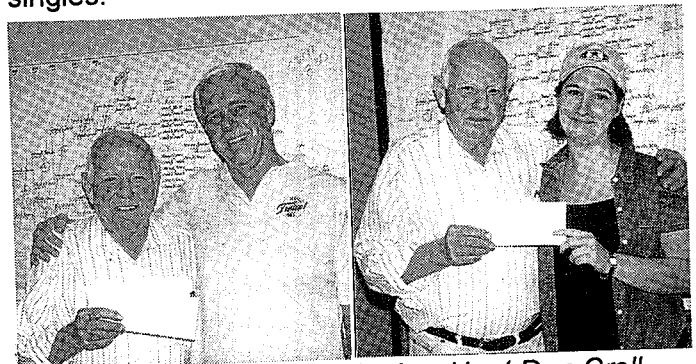


The Oklahoma State Champion for the Year 2000 is none other than our very own tournament staff member Rena Fleming from Moore, Oklahoma. She had to beat Bill Melton to take the crown.

Donny Wilkerson of Tulsa and Dino Fleming of Oklahoma City took fourth place in the draw partner event.



There were 21 entries in Saturday's Div. 1 singles.



Texans swept the Div. 1 singles. Host Don Crall presents top honors to Johnny Wayne Crawford, and second place monies to Jeri Billard. Billy Melton, also of Texas, filled out the winner's circle.

(continued on Page 6)

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

Florida

7TH ANNUAL FLORIDA OPEN, SNUGGERY BAR & GRILL, PALM BEACH GARDENS, MARCH 17-19

The Snuggery Bar & Grill, 2556 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens, will host the 7th Annual Florida Open Shuffleboard Championships on March 17-19. Action will start on Friday, March 17, 6 p.m., with a draw partner event, \$25 per player. The bring partner doubles, \$100 per team, is on the agenda for Saturday at 11 a.m. On Sunday, the open singles, \$50 entry, will start at 11 a.m. All events are 15 points, single game, double elimination, with sponsor sales prior to all events. A one-time \$10 registration fee will be charged. There is a 24 team cut-off, so get your reservations in early. There are many free local attractions in this area, so bring the entire family.

For registration and lodging information, contact Marty Allen at 561-697-9677. Check the flyer that was in last month's issue.

BLAST OFF TOURNAMENT, FILL-N-STATION, MIMS, MARCH 23-26

All you winter-weary snowbirds are encouraged to consider a fun-filled, family-oriented shuffleboard vacation in sunny Florida. Start off with the Florida Open and stay for the Cape Kennedy Blast-Off Tournament at the Fill-N-Station in Mims, scheduled for March 23-26.

On Thursday, March 23, round robins are scheduled beginning at 7 p.m. A draw partner event, \$30 per team, will start at 7 p.m. Friday. There are two events on Saturday, a mixed doubles, \$30 per team, starting at 9 a.m., and a singles, \$20 per person, at 2 p.m. The final event is a bring partner, \$40 per team, at noon on Sunday.

All events will be single game, double elimination, 15 points (straight) with sponsor sale before each event. The tournament will be played on three boards.

For further information, contact Doug Fridley, 407-383-8420, or the Fill-N-Station, 407-383-0053. Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

New York

SPRING TOURNEY, DEW DROP INN, WATERLOO, APRIL 27-30

The Dew Drop Inn, 37 Virginia St., Waterloo, will host its Spring National Tournament on April 27-30. The weekend action will start with \$5 and \$10 round robins at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 27. On Friday, starting at 6 p.m., will be the mixed doubles, \$25 per team. There are two events on Saturday: a singles, \$25 entry, starting at 9 a.m., and a draw partner, \$15 per person entry, starting at 4 p.m. A bring partner event, \$25 per team, will start at noon on Sunday.

Tournaments at this popular site fill up early, so advance registration is highly recommended. Use the form on the flyer enclosed in this issue to save your spot. For further information and/or lodging recommendations, call Tracie at the Dew Drop Inn, 315-539-5729.

The Dew Drop Inn, located in a beautiful area of New York State, will also hold a Summer National Tournament on Aug. 3-6 -- same format, same entry fees. Watch for details; in the meantime, mark your calendars now.

Arizona

BILL GIBBS MEMORIAL, FAMILY BILLIARDS, GLENDALE, APRIL 28-30

For the fifth year, Arizona shufflers and their friends across the country will gather to pay tribute to the memory of Bill Gibbs, who passed away in 1995. The 5th Annual Bill Gibbs Memorial Tournament will be held at Family Billiards (The Bar), 5814 W. Camelback, Glendale, on April 28-30. There will be three events played on four boards.

A handicap draw, \$10 per person, is on the agenda for Friday, April 28, 7 p.m. The A-B-C draw, \$30 per team, will start on Saturday at 10 a.m., and the open doubles, \$50 per person, starts at 6 p.m. The finals for the ABC draw and open doubles will take place on Sunday, April 30, starting at 10 a.m.

For information, contact Bob Lewis, 602-242-6782; Al Salazar, 602-583-7035; Alice Arredondo, 602-849-1845; or Family Billiards, 602-939-4000.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site.

Michigan**MIXED DOUBLES, MAJESTIC CAFE, PONTIAC, MARCH 11**

The Majestic Cafe in Pontiac will host a mixed doubles, \$40 per team, on March 11. Events will be single game, double elimination, limited to 24 teams, and paying three places. Entry deadline is 10 a.m. on March 11 and action will start with a sponsor sale at noon and play immediately following.

To reserve your spot, send a check payable to Majestic Cafe to: Majestic Cafe, 156 Oakland Ave., Pontiac, MI 48342. Questions? Call Charlee at 248-335-2581.

\$\$\$\$\$ SERIES WILL REPEAT

The Super Slammin' Summer Sunday Shuffleboard series, introduced last year, will repeat in 2000. The series of three doubles (which must be paid in advance) will culminate in a play-off with the top point-earners vying for a pot that includes \$5 per player collected from each of the three tournaments. Watch for details. In the meantime, mark your calendars: SSSS#1, Majestic Cafe, Pontiac, Michigan, June 4; SSSS#2, Club Car Lounge, Durand, Michigan, July 16; SSSS#3, Stober's Lounge, Lansing, Michigan, August 13; SSSS Playoffs, Club Car Lounge, Durand, Sept. 3. All doubles events are on Sundays. Singles will be held at Majestic on June 3, and at Stober's on Aug. 12.

Last year was the first time the three Michigan shuffleboard locations have cooperated in a series of summer tournaments. Tournament director Dennis Bittner of the Club Car Lounge predicts that participation this year will double.

RUDY STOBER MEMORIAL, JUNE 23-25, STOBER'S LOUNGE, LANSING

The 5th Annual Rudy Stober Memorial Tournament will be held on June 23-25 at Stober's Cocktail Lounge, 812 E. Michigan, Lansing. The event is held in honor of the memory of Rudy Stober, the first inductee into the Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

Action will start on Friday, June 23, with round robins. The bring partner doubles (no pros, 0's or 1's may team up together), \$40 per team entry, will start with the sponsor sale at noon on Saturday,

with play immediately following. The open singles, \$20 entry, will be held on Sunday, with sale and play beginning at 1 p.m. Both events are single game, double elimination.

For further information, contact director Carrie Clifton, 517-482-1190.

Texas**4TH MOTHER'S SPRING FLING, CORPUS CHRISTI, MARCH 10-12**

Mothers Pizza and Por Boys, 12135 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, will host their 4th annual "Spring Fling" on March 10-12. Action will start at 8 p.m. Friday with an A-B handicapped draw, followed on Saturday at 1 p.m. with a free barbeque and a handicapped 4-person team event with \$200 added prize money. The weekend will be capped off with a handicapped singles event at noon on Sunday, March 12.

For further information, contact Neil Garvin at 361-854-3632, or E-mail: judygarvin@prodigy.net

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS, TAZ COUNTRY, MARCH 30-APRIL 2

The Texas State Championship Tournament has been scheduled for March 30-April 2 at Taz Country. Participants must have a Texas driver's license to enter. Events will include a draw on Thursday (\$30 entry); pro (\$150) and amateur (\$80) doubles on Friday; pro (\$100) and amateur (\$50) singles on Saturday; and a draw (\$30) on Sunday. A \$15 registration fee will be charged. Pros and 0's may not draw each other in either draw event.

For further information, contact Ron or Debbie Bowers, 512-835-7256 or e-mail: ronbowers@jump.net

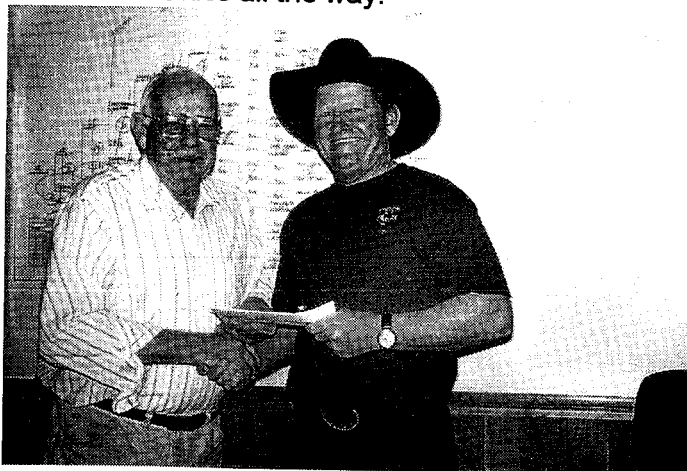
1ST MEMORIAL OPEN, DANNY'S SPORTS BAR, HOUSTON, MAY 26-29

The 1st Annual Memorial Open will be held at Danny's Sports Bar in Houston, site of the first Houston Holiday Open four years ago. The dates of the inaugural Memorial Open will be May 26-29. The

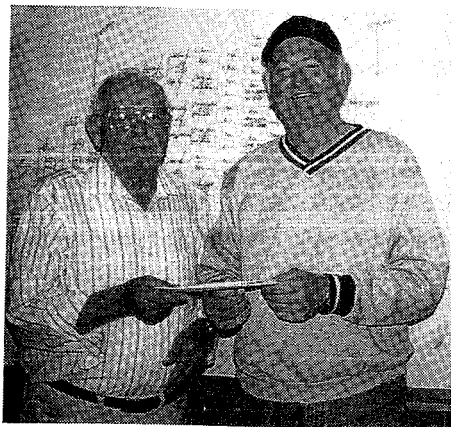
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Oklahoma (continued from Page 3)

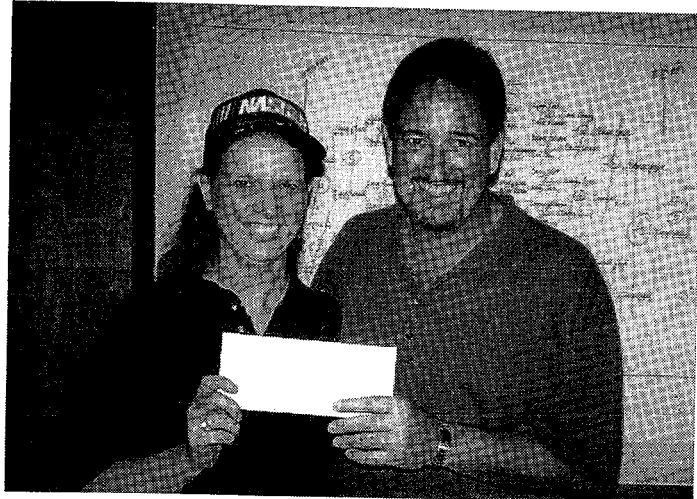
There were also 21 entries in the Div. 2 singles and it was Okies all the way.



It was the guy in the black hat who walked away with top monies in the Div. 2 singles, Gerald Wood of Stratford.



Euel Jensen of Crescent took second place honors.



Another member of the talented American Legion tournament staff, Kathy Yingst, does the presentation for third place winner Bruce Splane of Tulsa. Lynn Tice of Pauls Valley finished in fourth place.

Sincere thanks to all who participated. The next event at Post 73 is a handicapped tournament on April 14-16. Call 405-670-9128 for information.

Brown/Dowell Winners at Warsaw Eagles

The Warsaw Eagles #1339 in Warsaw, Indiana, with two boards and great food, hosted a doubles tournament on Feb. 4-5. There were 21 teams vying for a share of the \$2170 total pot.

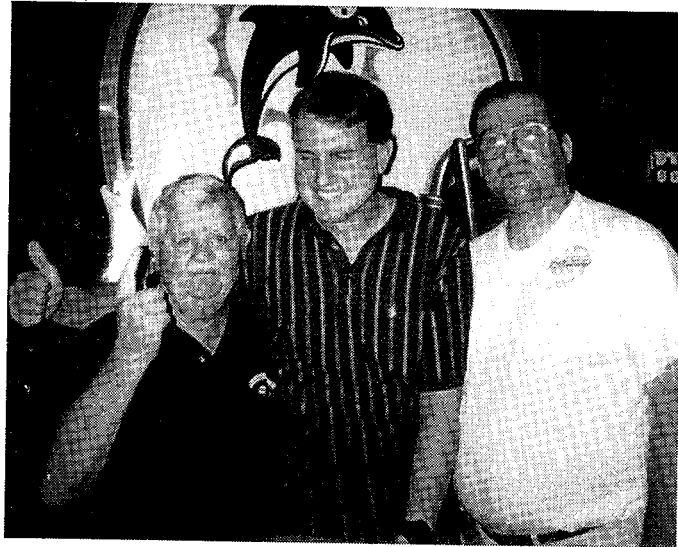
In an exciting finale, Terry Dowell and Larry "Brownie" Brown had to double dip the husband and wife team of Mark and Shannon McLeod to capture first place. Dave Boaz and Glen Ingram took third place, with Larry Creakbaum and Jim Long finishing fourth. Missy Rupe and Kristie Redman, Adron Owens and Claude Johnson took fifth and sixth.

On Friday night preceding the doubles, two draw partner tourneys were held, with the same winners, Brian Collins and Adron Owens, in both events. Coming in second in the first draw were Claude Johnson and Roy Bradbury, and taking second place honors in the second draw were Leon Black of Lansing, Michigan, and Dennis Creighbaum.

Tournament director Terry Dowell thanks Larry Creakbaum for help with the bracket board and Mary Brown for help with keeping the money straight. He also thanks Robbe Stouder, Gary Neff, Gary Anglin, and Jim Hartung for help in bringing in a second board and setting it up for this tournament.

M.V.P., Phoenix, Hosts ABC Tournament

The M.V.P., 6001 N. 43rd Ave., Phoenix, Arizona, (phone 602-973-2018), which now has four boards for tournaments, recently hosted an ABC Tournament.



Winners (left to right) were Billy Bryan, Robert Price, and Wendell Herbison.



Linda Meyers, Charlie Jordan, and Ken Kleker took second place honors in the ABC tournament at the M.V.P. in Phoenix, Arizona.



Third place went to Clint Hibbs, Gene Clark, and Mike Piper.

Ladies' Amateur (cont. from Page 1)

Werner, Dixie Debbie, Mary Burdette, Linda Wright, and Jolene Lembke). Without the out-of-town guests, this tournament would not have been the same. Together with the regular band of shufflers from Visalia, Manteca, Sacramento, Santa Clara, and Livermore, this first ladies' tournament was a huge success.

The support and encouragement by Lois and Freddie Thuman was greatly appreciated -- not to mention the beautiful bouquets they provided for each of the ladies. The Old Town Saloon hosts, Ray Comer and Sandy McQuillan, went out of their way to provide a great tournament environment. Thanks to Lorraine, Kathy, and Stevie for help when needed. A very special thanks to A.Z. Turnbo, who provided the four boards.

Let's keep it up, ladies. As Freddie said: "We're on our way to something big here!"

East Coast Winter Tourney

By Dick Gorman

The East Coast Winter Tournament, held Jan. 14-15, was the fourth in a series of seven weekend events at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland. Same four in-house boards, same great hospitality by Darlyne and Harvey, who continue to provide a great place for avid shuffleboard players.

This weekend's tournament started out with the normal Friday night draw partner event. The results were almost normal. Wendy Davis of Wilmington, Delaware, was part of the winning team for the third tournament in a row, all with different partners. This time it was Len Dell, Baltimore, Md. who shared first-place money. Second place went to host Harvey Comer and his partner, Curtis Dean, Northeast, Md. Finishing in third place were Arnold Ledford, Darlington, Md., and Wayne Nichols, Conowingo, Md. The nice part -- all finished before normal closing time.

On Saturday, new teams showed up to play and the fun began. An old team from years ago teamed up for the first time in a long time to take first place. Butch Kelly, Springfield, Pa., rejoined Joe Williams from Ridley Park, Pa., and took first place after coming out of the loser's bracket. Friday night's practice in the draw partner event wasn't quite enough as Harvey Comer and Curtis Dean went all the way through the winner's bracket only to succumb to Joe and Butch, and take second place again. Third place was taken by a formidable team of Keith Leonard, Charlestown, Md., and Dave Shewbridge, Pasadena, Md.

The Mason-Dixon Classic was held on Feb. 18-19 (see results next month), followed by the Spring Warmup scheduled for March 24-25, and the Maryland State Championships (open singles) on April 28-29. Call Harvey Comer to make your reservations: 410-836-8881.

Long/Creakbaum Win Winter Doubles at Chances "R"

Fourteen teams competed in the 5th Annual Winter Doubles at Chances "R" in Muncie, Indiana, on Jan. 15. Hostess Karen Schounce added \$100 to the tournament payout.

First place winners were Jim Long and Larry Creakbaum. Second place honors went to John Modglin and Teddy Wooten, with Robbie Collins and Milt VanOsdol in third place.

National Hall of Fame Board Looks to Future

(Editor's Note: In the February issue of The Board Talk, it was reported that Glen Davidson would serve as vice president of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame for another year. That was written before the election ballots had been tallied and there was some confusion at that time whether or not Al Salazar had accepted his nomination for NSHF vice president. We apologize for this error and welcome this official report from the NSHF. -- D & G)

**From Don Valk, President
Lynda French, Secretary**

Year 2000 NSHF Board of Directors

Effective Feb. 1, 2000 - Ballots received, tallied, and results communicated to the NSHF Board of Directors on Jan. 29, 2000, by Louise Freer:

- Don Valk (Texas), President/Chairperson
- Al Salazar (Arizona), Vice President
- Ray Boyett (Florida), Chief Financial Officer/
Treasurer
- Lynda French (Texas), Secretary
- Dave Arndt (Washington), Director
- Larry Creakbaum (Indiana), Director
- Glen Davidson (Oklahoma), Director
- Louise Freer (Pennsylvania), Director
- Bob Hunt (California), Director
- Harvey Kidd (Texas), Director
- Frank Mako (Washington), Director
- Hal Perry (California), Director

Mailing address for the NSHF is: National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, c/o Lynda P. French, Secretary, 12710 Red Deer Pass, Austin TX 78729-6436; **Email:** Lynda French lynda@jump.net
Phone: 512-250-0327; **Fax:** 512-250-9249;
Cellular: 512-751-9617

As a preface, we wish to thank and recognize Glen Davidson, Hal Perry, Bob Hunt, and Louise Freer for their fantastic jobs performed in their prior offices of President, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, and Secretary respectively and all other former NSHF Directors and are very pleased that they accepted to continue in the directors role. As many of you may already know, it was decided during the NSHF meeting held during the Reno 1999 tournament, that the directors would be expanded from seven to 12 Board of Director positions. This gives us much better geographic

coverage and will better enable us to work more closely with the shuffleboard community and the state Shuffleboard Hall of Fame committees.

Open Meeting July 1, Del City, Oklahoma

The next NSHF meeting will be an OPEN meeting and will be held in the afternoon of Saturday, July 1, 2000, in Del City, Oklahoma. The Southwest Open tournament is scheduled for July 2-8, so by having the NSHF meeting on the day before tournament startup, we should be able to have maximum attendance without tournament play conflicts. The meeting details (location, time and agenda) will be communicated once confirmed and finalized. We hope many of you are able to attend, most especially State Shuffleboard Hall of Fame Directors and committee members. One of our top priority goals for Year 2000 will be to work more closely with the state committees and possibly reduce the workload of national and state members, including performing and chairing national and state induction ceremonies.

All interested parties: please come in a day early with plans to attend the July 1st NSHF meeting prior to tournament startup.

Year 2000 NSHF Board Plans & Considerations

1. Forming a NSHF Finance Committee comprised of a set of directors per procedures outlined in the NSHF Bylaws, Section 12. This committee would be responsible for review of the current financial conditions of the NSHF, recommend means of fund raising, establish procedures and forms for "pre-approval" of all treasury expenditures as dictated in the NSHF Bylaws, Section 11. These recommendations and procedures would then be voted on by the directors.

2. Forming a NSHF Historical Committee comprised of a set of directors per procedures outlined in the NSHF Bylaws, Section 12. Volunteers from the shuffleboard community are needed to assist this committee when it is formed. We would like to get volunteers from across the country to gather and submit history to the NSHF Committee. We will establish a single "safe" repository for these historical collections which will likely be a bank box or fireproof safe until such time a NSHF facility can be leased or purchased for actual display. If interested in volunteering for collection and submission of historical information,

please contact Lynda French, NSHF Secretary. One volunteer (Mike Halstead of Kentucky) has been received thusfar. We need more volunteers to provide a broad coverage of the shuffleboard community geographically (e.g., North, South, East, West, and Central). VOLUNTEERS?

3. Conduct a NSHF Bylaws review (planned to occur during the NSHF July meeting) to determine if any amendments need to be made to accommodate the growth and extended plans of the NSHF. Bylaws amendment considerations will require a majority vote of NSHF Directors before any amendment updates will be exercised.

4. Standardized NSHF "Induction Nomination Forms" that can also be used as a template for the state SHOF committees will be revisited and updated. If you have someone to nominate as a potential deserving candidate for the NSHF, please contact Lynda French, NSHF Secretary, for the submission template and guidelines for preparing and submitting the form.

5. NSHF induction ceremony procedural review. We will continue to keep the ceremonies as professional and cost-efficient as possible, working jointly with local resources to assist with these inductions. By the expansion of the NSHF Board of Directors to 12 members and making use of local resources (such as state SHOF members), we hope to have a more efficient geographic coverage to assist with NSHF ceremonies. In the formative years, much of the NSHF treasury budget has been spent on travel to induction ceremonies. Since formation, we have a growing number of local state Shuffleboard Hall of Fame resources and a broader regional coverage of NSHF Directors. We feel this will better enable us to not only improve the induction process, but should also help in reducing induction costs.

A suggestion has been received recommending that the NSHF Directors consider performing the induction ceremonies annually at one of the well-attended national tournaments, such as Reno or Del City. This could provide a broader national level ceremony attendance and recognition. This suggestion (and any others the shuffleboard community might have) should be discussed and voted on during the July meeting.

Another discussion item will be the status of a temporary preference that inductees be at least 60 years old. This was never voted as a NSHF Bylaw amendment, but was an informal attempt to honor some of the older deserving players as the first inductees into the NSHF. Now that we are five years into NSHF formation, it has been suggested that the

age 60 year old informal agreement be lifted and/or NSHF Bylaws be amended to reflect any age requirements for inductee candidates. Comments from the shuffleboard community are welcome!

6. Provide a periodic NSHF treasury report to the shuffleboard community (e.g., via The Board Talk and the NSHF section of the BOWERS CORNER internet website):

<http://www.jump.net/~ronbowers/nationalhof.html>

The frequency of reports has not been finalized, but likely will occur either quarterly or semi-annually.

7. Review and establish improved communication channels between the NSHF Directors and the shuffleboard community. We plan to use The Board Talk, NSHF page on BOWERS CORNER website, and have created an online YAHOO CLUB forum that we would like all the shuffleboard community to join. You must establish a YAHOO handle and password and then join the newly-created NSHF YAHOO CLUB to post and view the messages on this club located at:

<http://clubs.yahoo.clubs/clubs/nshf>

We hope that each of you who have internet connectivity will communicate on this newly established Yahoo Club. The NSHF Directors will periodically review the posts on this club and respond when appropriate.

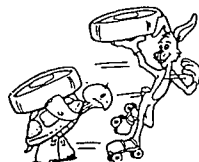
8. NSHF LOGO -- Please submit any suggestions for a NSHF logo to Lynda French, NSHF Secretary. All submissions will be reviewed at the upcoming NSHF meeting on July 1.

Your Input Encouraged!

Please send us your suggestions for other topics you would like us to review and consider on/ before our upcoming July 1st meeting. Also, if you wish to make a donation to the NSHF, please send to Secretary Lynda French, 12710 Red Deer Pass, Austin TX 78729-6436, and it will be forwarded to Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer Ray Boyett for deposit. Your suggestions and donations are welcome!

We look forward to working with all of you!

**Support Your State & National
Shuffleboard Halls of Fame
with your ideas, donations,
nominations and volunteer efforts!**



**George & Donna Wilber
THE BOARD TALK**

Upcoming Events *(cont. from Page 5)*

directors and staff, with four years of experience running the Houston Holiday Open, will ensure a smooth, well-run tournament.

The tournament will have eight boards with electronic scoring systems, arranged to provide ample room for visualization and socializing. A lounge tent will also be erected in front of Danny's offering free coffee and soft drinks with music and P.A. system connected to the main bar. The full service kitchen will open Saturday, Sunday and Monday at 9 a.m. serving breakfast and offering daily lunch specials. Menu service is available evenings and throughout the day.

There will be two events each day (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) that will ensure fair competition for all skill levels.

On Friday, the 26th, everyone signs up for two events. Event #1 which -1, 0 and 1 rated players will be captains for a draft partner in which the highest 1-rated player drafts first and the lowest -1 player drafts last (probably from 2-rated players). The players not drafted will participate in Event #2, which is a "leftover" handicapped blind draw.

On Saturday, the 27th, there will be two bring partner events. Event #3 will be minimum points 0. Event #4 will be handicapped minimum points 5.

Sunday, the 28th, there will be two singles events with handicapped entry fees. Event #5 will be for -1's, 0's and 1 rated players. Event #6 will be for 2's, 3's, and 4 rated players.

Monday, the 29th, will be finishing events if necessary and side and match games.

The Hampton Inn will offer a special rate of \$42.75 per deluxe room with two doubles or one king size bed, free deluxe continental breakfast buffet included until 10 a.m. They will also provide free van transportation to and from Danny's Sports Bar, which is four miles away, until 10 p.m. For reservations, call 713-935-0022.

For additional information, contact directors Jack Scott, 281-558-0237, or Johnny Ballard at home, 281-759-3706 or 'cell' 409-672-2949.

Washington

MEMORIAL EXTRAVAGANZA AT SEASON TICKET, SPOKANE, MAY 26-28

The Season Ticket, 1221 N. Howard, Spokane, will host the Northwest's 19th Annual Memorial Day Shuffleboard Extravaganza on May 26-28. The tournament will be played on eight boards.

Action will start on Friday at 7 p.m. with an A-B draw, \$10 entry, negative spot handicap, 15 point single elimination.

On Saturday, there will be a A-B-C draw, \$25 entry, negative spot handicap, 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket, 21 points in the loser's bracket.

An A doubles (.00 team total), \$100 per team, and a B doubles (4.5 team total), \$50 per team, are on the agenda for Sunday. This is also 2 out of 3 winners, 21 point losers. The Bowers Rating System will be used and team totals will be calculated by exact decimal rating.

Door prizes, \$1,000 plus added money, and a vintage car giveaway will be part of this fun weekend.

For further information, call Dan Hitt or Melody Marine, 509-939-1134 or 483-7615; or the Season Ticket, 509-9790.

JERRY RETIRES, BUT SHUFFLEBOARD ACTION GOES ON AT SHAMROCK

Jerry Berquist, long-time owner of the Shamrock Tavern in Longview and key supporter of shuffleboard in the Northwest, has retired. He has sold the business to his niece Lori and her husband Steve, who is a shuffleboard player, and the couple plans to continue Jerry's tradition. Upcoming events at the Shamrock include: **draw partners, May 20-21; mixed doubles, June 17-18; Nelson-Buhl doubles, Oct. 21-22; and 55 and Over, Nov. 18-19.** Shufflers are urged to stop in and welcome Lori and Steve to The World of Shuffleboard.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ON PLANNING BOARD FOR NEXT YEAR

The Evergreen Shuffleboard Association has been in the preliminary stages of planning to bring back the World Shuffleboard Championships that were held in the Great Northwest for so many years in the past. In those days, they were called the Northwest Regionals.

At the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame meeting held at the 1999 North American Shuffleboard Championships in Reno, NSHF Director Frank Mako of Washington asked for the board's support of this event, and to hold a National Hall of Fame induction there. The answer was "great!" so here we go, reports Frank.

(continued on Page 12)



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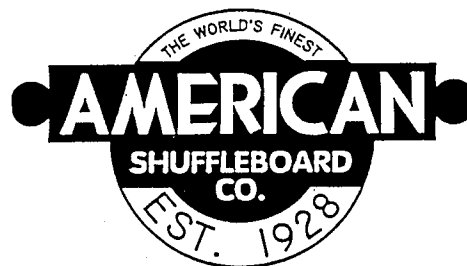
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Upcoming Events *(cont. from Page 10)*

The dates for the World Championships revival are April 22-27, 2001. A tentative agenda includes 13 events designed for players of all skill levels: open doubles (add to .0), World Championship open singles, bring your own ABC team, singles and doubles for Div. I and II, singles and doubles for Div. III and IV, 3-person team events (open, Div. I, Div. II and Div. III and IV), a 6-person draft team event, and a mixed doubles.

"Shuffleboard players, you can start making your plans now because we are going to make this a big one on the West Coast," said Frank.

Ohio

TOLEDO OPEN, AVON'S LOCAL 14, APRIL 7-9

Avon's Local 14 in Toledo will host a three-event tournament on April 7-9. A draw partner is scheduled for Friday night (-1, 0 or 1's may not draw each other), followed by a handicap doubles on Saturday, and a handicap singles with progressive entry fees on Sunday. Entry deadline for the draw partner is 7:30 p.m. Friday with play immediately following. Entry deadline for the singles and doubles Saturday at 1 p.m.

For information, contact John McDermott at The Shuffleboard Federation, Inc., 248-380-9300.

Indiana

TWO INDUCTIONS SET FOR BOURBON'S SPRING DOUBLES, MAY 6

Two more inductions into the Indiana Shuffleboard Hall of Fame will take place at the 40th Annual Spring Doubles, American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon on May 6. The inductees will be "Doc" Slabaugh and "Skip" Jackson.

The handicap entry for the doubles is \$50/\$25 and the sponsor sale will be held at 8 p.m. on May 5. For tournament information/lodging recommendations, call Terry Dowell, 219-353-1070, or Bill Niswonger at the American Legion, 219-342-8100.

Other upcoming events at the American Legion include a handicap singles on April 8, and the 2nd Annual Round Robin Singles on Aug. 18-19.

**Support Your State & National
Shuffleboard Halls of Fame!**

DOUBLES AT MISSISSINEWA TAVERN, EATON, APRIL 22

The Mississinewa Tavern, 125 West Harris, Eaton, will host an open doubles on April 22. Entry fee is \$30 per team and will be limited to the first 24 teams. The double elimination event, played on two boards, will have a pay-off of 60-30-10. The sponsor sale starts at 11 a.m., with play immediately following.

For further information, call the Mississinewa, 765-396-9371.

BOBBY SCHOUNCE MEMORIAL, CHANCES "R", MUNCIE, MARCH 25

The 2nd Annual Bobby Schounce Memorial Doubles Tournament will be held at Chances "R" in Muncie on March 25. The tournament, played on four boards, will start with the sponsor sale at 11 a.m. Owner Karen Schounce will be donating \$5 per player to the Cancer Society in memorium to Bobby, and will also add \$100 to the tournament payout.

For information, contact Karen at 765-284-0855.

OTHER INDIANA ACTION...

The Palace Bar in Fairmount will host a doubles and singles on March 11-12. Call Bobby V at 765-948-9102.

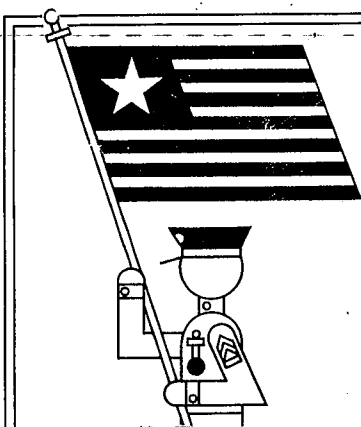
AMVETS Post 26 in Pendleton will hold their Spring doubles and singles on April 15-16. Call 765-778-7224.

The Locker Bar in Marion will hold an open doubles on April 29. Call Bobby V at 765-662-0041.

Your Attention Please!

Every month on the back page, we publish a form for you to use when you move, explaining that notifying the Post Office is not sufficient. Yet every month, we receive calls from subscribers who have moved and wonder why they haven't received their Board Talk for several months.

Unless you let us know, your Board Talk keeps going to your old address and is dumped if you don't live there anymore. The Post Office does not forward, nor return, bulk rate mailings.



1st Annual Memorial Open Shuffleboard Tournament MAY 26-29, 2000

Danny's Sports Bar

12126 Westheimer, Houston, Texas

Phone: 281-555-8693 Web Page: www.dannysportsbar.com

Event #1 -- Friday, May 26, 7 p.m.: Pro/Am Draft Partner

-1, 0, and 1 rated players will be captains for a draft partner. The highest 1 rated player drafts first and the lowest -1 rated player drafts last from a pool of 2, 3, and 4 rated players. Entry fee is \$30 for all.

Event #2 -- Friday, May 26, 7 p.m.: Blind Draw

All remaining players (2, 3, 4) not drafted will play. Handicap play. \$30 entry.

Event #3 -- Saturday, May 27, 12 p.m.: Bring Partner

Minimum points 0. \$150 per team entry.

Event #4 -- Saturday, May 27, 12 p.m.: Bring Partner

Add to 5 or more. Handicap play for 2's, 3's and 4's. \$60 per team entry fee.

Event #5 -- Sunday, May 28, 12 p.m.: Singles

Handicapped entry fees: \$100 for -1, \$75 for 0, \$50 for 1, and \$30 for 2.

Event #6 -- Sunday, May 28, 12 p.m.: Singles

Handicapped entry fees: \$50 for 2, \$40 for 3, \$30 for 4

Finale -- Monday, May 29, 12 p.m.: Finish singles if necessary.

Draws and challenge games.

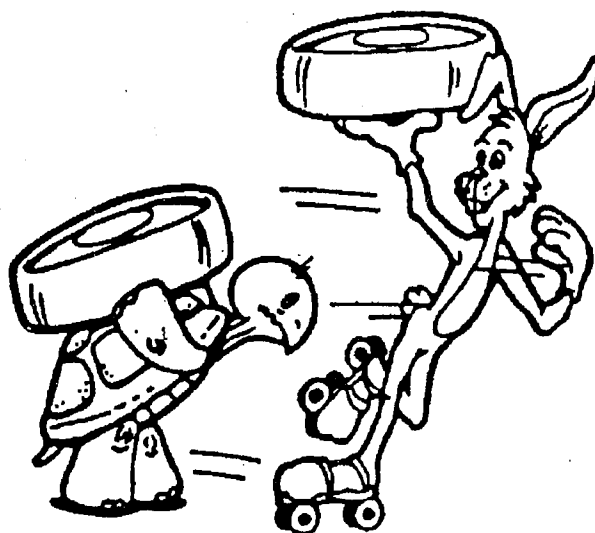
Details: ●One-time registration fee of \$15. ●All events Friday-Sunday are single game, double elimination. ●Handicap Events (#2, #4) mark points at start of play. ●Sponsor sales for each event. ●EIGHT BOARDS. READY FOR PRACTICE THURSDAY, MAY 25. ●Bowers Rating System (Spring 2000) in use.

Amenities: ●Complimentary coffee and cokes in tent outside of Danny's. ●Food specials every day. ●Bar opens at 9 a.m.

Accommodations: Hampton Inn, I-10 West, 11333 Katy Freeway, Houston. Deluxe room -- 1 king or 2 double beds, \$42.75 per night (normal rate \$77), free continental breakfast from 6-10 a.m., outdoor swimming pool, 24-hour workout room. Free transportation to Danny's, 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. Call 713-935-0022.

For Information: Jack Scott, 281-558-0237, or Johnny Ballard, 281-759-3706 or (cell) 409-672-2949.

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MAY 26-27-28, 2000

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

●Friday, 7 p.m.: A/B DRAW

Negative spot handicap, \$10 entry, 15 pt. single elimination

●Saturday, 10 a.m.: A/B/C DRAW

*Negative spot handicap, \$25 entry, 2 out of 3 Winners,
21 pt. losers*

●Sunday, 10 a.m.: A DOUBLES (.00 TEAM TOTAL)

\$100 per team

B DOUBLES (4.5 TEAM TOTAL)

\$50 per team

2 out of 3 Winners, 21 pt. Losers

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Spring Nationals

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Phone: 315-539-5729

APRIL 27-30



THURSDAY, APRIL 27 -- ROUND ROBINS

\$5 and \$10 draws, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28 -- MIXED DOUBLES

Entry fee, \$25 per team, drawing and bidding at 6 p.m., with play immediately following

SATURDAY, APRIL 29 -- OPEN SINGLES

Entry fee, \$25 per player, drawing and bidding at 9 a.m., with play immediately following

SATURDAY, APRIL 29 -- DRAW PARTNERS

Entry fee, \$15 per person, drawing and bidding at 4 p.m., with play immediately following

SUNDAY, APRIL 30 -- BRING PARTNER

Entry fee, \$25 per team, drawing and bidding at 12 noon, with play immediately following

All games 15 points straight, single game, double elimination. Open buffet. Advance registration suggested and must be accompanied with entry fees.

These events have sold out in past years, so call ahead! All play is on four boards.

RESERVATION FORM

Sign me up for the following:

Open Singles _____ Mixed Doubles _____ Draw Partner _____ Bring Partner _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Mixed Doubles Partner: _____

Bring Partner's Name: _____

Make check payable to and send to: Dew Drop Inn, 37 Virginia St., Waterloo NY 13165.

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MARCH 23-26, 2000

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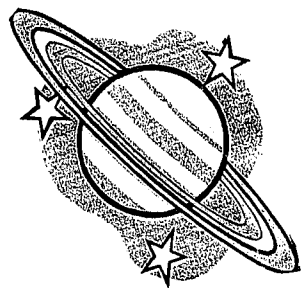
➤ Thursday, March 23, 7 p.m.: ROUND ROBINS

➤ Friday, March 24, 7 p.m.: DRAW PARTNER

\$30 per team

➤ Saturday, March 25, 9 a.m.: MIXED DOUBLES

\$30 per team



➤ Saturday, March 25, 2 p.m.: SINGLES

\$20 per person

➤ Sunday, March 26, 12 Noon: BRING PARTNER

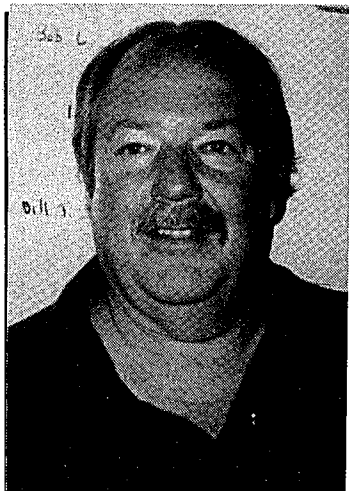
\$40 per team

*Events will be single game, double elimination, with sponsor sale before each event.
15 points (straight), played on 3 boards.*

For more information or to make reservations, contact: Doug Fridley Sr., 407-383-8420
or Fill-N-Station, 407-383-0053

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APRIL 28-30
THREE EVENTS -- FOUR BOARDS**

❖ **Friday, April 28, 7 p.m. -- HANDICAP DRAW,**
(using the Bowers Rating System) **\$10 per person**

❖ **Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m. -- A-B-C-DRAW,**
\$30 per team

❖ **Saturday, April 29, 6 p.m. -- OPEN DOUBLES,**
\$50 per person

❖ **Sunday, April 30, 10 a.m. -- FINALS FOR
A-B-C DRAW AND OPEN DOUBLES**

FOR LODGING AND/OR TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

Bob Lewis, 602-242-6782

Al Salazar, 602-583-7035

Alice Arredondo, 602-849-1845

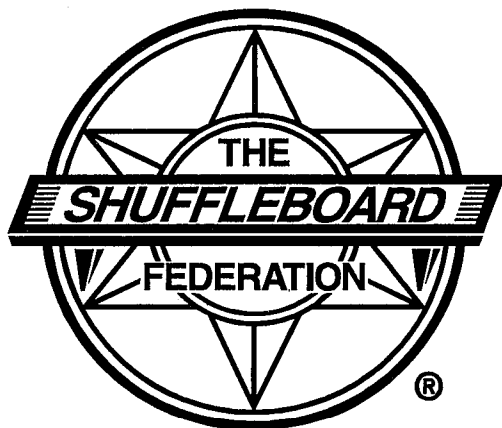
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2000 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

MARCH

March 4-5

True Round Robin Doubles
American Legion 424
Bourbon, Indiana

March 10-12

4th Mother's Spring Fling
Mothers Pizza & Por Boys
Corpus Christi, Texas

March 11-12

Doubles & Singles
Palace Bar
Fairmount, Indiana

March 11

Mixed Doubles
Majestic Cafe
Pontiac, Michigan

March 11-12

Mixed Doubles
Old Edison Inn
Edison, Washington

March 17-18

8th Annual St. Pat's Tourney
Eagles Lodge 3911
Houston, Missouri

March 17-19

3-Event Tournament
Harold's Bar
Omaha, Nebraska

March 17-19

7th Annual Florida Open
Snuggery Bar & Grill
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

March 23-26

Blast Off Tournament
Fill-N-Station
Mims, Florida

March 24-25

Spring Warm-Up
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

March 25

2nd Annual Bobby Schounce
Memorial Tournament
Chances "R"
Muncie, Indiana

March 25-26

Open Doubles
Tim's Timber Tavern
Kelso, Washington

March 30-April 2

Texas State Championships
Taz Country
Austin, Texas

APRIL

April 7-9

Toledo Open
Avon's Local 14
Toledo, Ohio

April 8

Handicapped Singles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

April 8-9

7th Annual Classic
BZ's Sports Bar & Grill
Burien, Washington

April 15-16

Spring Doubles & Singles
AMVETS Post 26
Pendleton, Indiana

April 14-16

Handicapped Tournament
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

April 20-23

Canadian Open
A.N.A.F. #68
Vancouver, B.C.

April 22

Doubles Tournament
Mississinewa Tavern
Eaton, Indiana

April 27-30

Spring National Tournament
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

April 28-30

5th Bill Gibbs Memorial
Family Billiards (The Bar)
Glendale, Arizona

April 29

Open Doubles
Locker Bar
Marian, Indiana

April 29-30

Maryland State Championships
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

MAY

May 6

40th Annual Spring Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

May 13-14

Open Doubles
Frankies Sports Pub
Olympia, Washington

May 20-21

Draw Partners
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

May 26-29

Memorial Open
Location TBA
Houston, Texas

May 26-29

Multi Tournament
Tolo Tavern
Medford, Oregon

May 26-28

19th Memorial Extravaganza
The Season Ticket
Tacoma, Washington

May 26-30

Wishita Handicap Tourney
Full House
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

JUNE

June 4

SSSS#1
Majestic Cafe
Pontiac, Michigan

June 17-18

Mixed Doubles
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

June 23-25

Rudy Stober Memorial Tourney
Stober's Lounge
Lansing, Michigan

JULY**July 2-8**

Southwest Open
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

July 16

SSSS#2
Club Car Lounge
Durand, Michigan

AUGUST**Aug. 1-6**

Grand Masters Plus
Whistling Oyster
Quilcene, Washington

Aug. 3-6

Summer National
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

Aug. 13

SSSS#3
Stober's Lounge
Lansing, Michigan

Aug. 18-19

2nd Round Robin Singles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

SEPTEMBER**Sept. 3**

SSSS Playoffs
Club Car Lounge
Durand, Michigan

Sept. 1-5

Labor Day Tourney
Full House
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

OCTOBER**Oct. 6-8**

Handicapped Tournament
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

Oct. 7

33rd Annual Fall Doubles
American Legion Post 424
Bourbon, Indiana

Oct. 21-22

Nelson/Buhl Doubles
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

Spring National Tournament

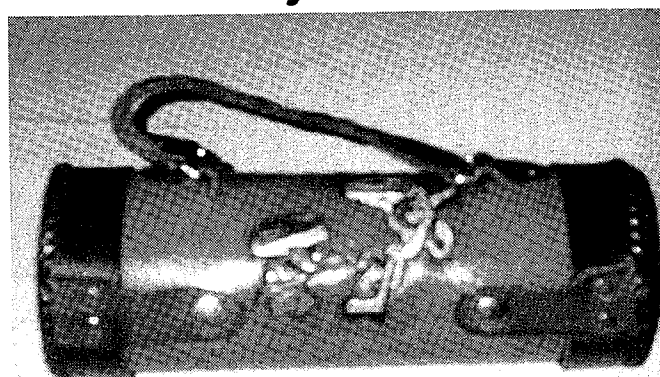
**APRIL 27-30**

- Thursday, April 27: \$5 & \$10 round robins, 7 p.m.
- Friday, April 28: Mixed Doubles, \$25 per team, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, April 29: Singles, \$25, 9 a.m.
- Saturday, April 29: Draw Partners, \$15 per person, 4 p.m.
- Sunday, April 30: Bring Partner, \$25 per team, Noon.

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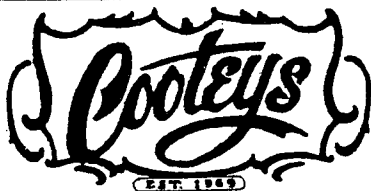
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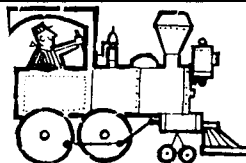
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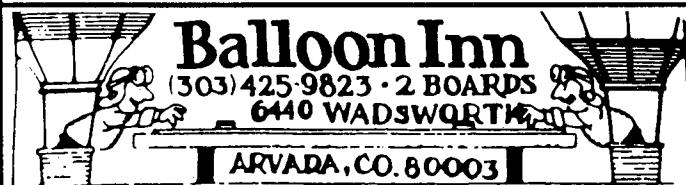
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Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A Series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(Editor's Note: In last month's episode, Eddie had beaten Lil in the finals to claim the championship in Reno, and as he and Shelli were happily planning their wedding, some dark clouds appeared on the horizon.)

The clouds had indeed turned black and threatening on the big day of Shelli and Eddie's wedding. As far as Shelli was concerned though, the sun was shining and everything was going to be perfect for her and Eddie on this day. After all, what she had hoped and prayed for so long was going to happen in a couple of hours!

They had even went so far that they slept in separate rooms the night before. They also had planned not to see each other until the wedding when Shelli walked down the aisle. This wasn't going to be a huge wedding, but it would be formal, and several of their friends were invited. Lil was supposed to meet Shelli that morning and help her with her gown and all, but for some reason she didn't show up and no one could locate her. Shelli's parents had even flown in so she had help from her Mom and her Dad was going to give her away.

The excitement level was starting to peak now for both the bride and groom. It was planned for Eddie and his best man and the rest of the entourage on his side to arrive at the large wedding chapel first. Shelli, her mother, and the bridesmaids and all would come in the limo (which would be whisking them off to their secret honeymoon rendezvous after the ceremony).

They were in separate rooms now in the chapel. Shelli's mom and her friends (minus Lil) were busy making the last-minute adjustments to her gown, and giving the inevitable last tidbits of advice, along with a lot of giggling and tittering, of course.

The atmosphere was slightly different in Eddie's room. There was a bit of joking going on (mainly about the Bachelor Party the night before). But the best man had the task of keeping Eddie away from the Wild Turkey bottle he had brought along -- "just to keep the boys in good spirits for the ceremony!"

They came to call for Eddie none too soon. He was "mellow" but still in pretty good shape. They made sure they had the ring and that everything else was in order. All they had to do now was to wait for Shelli to make her appearance with her dad. Eddie made a visual sweep around the room to see if Lil was there, but she was a "no-show." The only thing he could figure out was that she must have

really gotten angry over losing the title to him. He quickly resigned himself to put that out of his mind, and focus on the wonderful event which was about to take place.

Finally, the organ began playing "Here Comes the Bride." Eddie had not seen Shelli in her wedding gown and he was stunned by her beauty. She was exquisite in every way! Although he knew the deep importance of the vows they were taking, it was hard for him to concentrate completely on the ceremony, because he just wanted it to be over so he could be alone with this beautiful creature who stood before him.

As a result, he wasn't paying a great deal of attention when the minister spoke the words: "...if anyone can show just cause why this couple should not be united in marriage, let them speak now or forever hold their peace." Neither did he or Shelli see the appearance of a person who was suddenly standing in the dimly-lit rear of the chapel. They didn't realize that something was about to happen -- until they heard a voice from the rear that said: "I have just cause why they shouldn't be married, Pastor."

Everyone in the room was taken back by this almost unheard of announcement! When the person took a few steps closer in, they were even more amazed when a face was put to that voice. It was the face of Long Beach Lil!

The pastor hesitated for a moment (this had never happened to him in a ceremony before), then asked: "Can you state your cause, young lady?" Lil replied: "I sure can, sir. It's all pretty simple, you see. That bridegroom up there has a legal obligation to me. I happen to be carrying a baby, and the man up there positively is its fa....."

--TO BE CONTINUED--

Talk about a bombshell! Is this just an act of revenge by Lil or could Eddie possibly be Daddy to not one -- but two -- babies?! Don't miss the next episode to find out.

Again, we encourage readers to let Balboa Ron know that you enjoy his monthly contributions. He's not been in the best of health and your notes would cheer him up a lot:

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Millar/Martin are Blue Goose "Sweethearts"

By Bill Walker

The weekend of Feb. 11-13 brought 26 couples to the Blue Goose in Port Orchard, Washington, for the annual Sweethearts mixed doubles. This \$1000 added tourney has become a premier stop on the Northwest shuffleboard circuit.

Action started on Friday night with 20 teams competing in an open draw contest. Local player Mike Waters of Tahuya and Mike Pond of Garfield, Washington, took the lion's share of the \$10 buy-in pot. They were pushed hard by runners-up Larry "Big Lager" Pearson and Linda Steffensen. Finishing in a tie for third place were the teams of Dwayne Ryan and Sheri Schrum, and Kenny Beard and Lana Gasper.

Saturday morning, the sponsor sale kicked off at 10:00 with spirited bidding on several of the perennial contenders for the crown, followed by excellent board play as some of the top names in Northwest shuffleboard displayed their talents. Competition was keen right into Sunday evening when a short break in play before the finals provided a bit of levity and relaxation as Canadian Hall of Famer Joannie Millar entertained, singing her now famous Irish ballad to an unsuspecting Rex Harstad and Larry Hudson.

After the break, Joannie and partner John Martin of Everett came out of the loser's bracket to defeat three-time finalists Mike and Hazel Thorpe twice to claim the championship.

Other finishers were: Jim and Michelle Foran, 3rd; Al Pease and recent runner-up in the State women's finals, Junele Schrum, 4th; tied for 5th were Mel and Jeanette John, owners of the Fir Cone Tavern in Shelton, and Tim Nugent and Sharon McDonnell of Tacoma. Tied for 7th were the teams of Gary George and Linda Steffensen, and locals Bill and Linda Walker. Linda showed she has as good an eye for assessing talent as she does for hitting weights, winning the sponsor sale for the champions and both 5th place teams, as well as purchasing herself.

As always in the past, good food provided by Dee, Lin, Vera, Barb, Sharon, Eileen, and served up by Chef John, was enjoyed by participants and observers. It consisted of snacks starting at noon Saturday, followed by a full meal at 6 p.m., followed by plenty of finger food and leftovers all day Sunday.

Conspicuous by his absence was Northwest Shuffleboard Legend Chuck Norris of Portland, Oregon, who is recovering from serious medical problems. We here at this tourney and shufflers

throughout the Northwest wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him back in competition soon.

(Editor's Note: Watch next month's issue for photos of this event. Shufflers across the U.S.A. join you in wishing Chuck a speedy recovery.)

Another Success at Taz Country!

By Debbie Bowers

Our first tournament of the millennium, held at Taz Country in Pflugerville, Texas (a suburb of Austin) was a great success. On Friday night, Jan. 21, we had 48 entries for our handicap draw. Billy Melton and Don Valk played into the wee hours to take first place over second place team of two of our local players, Mike Taylor and Tony Howard. Third place went to two Houston players, Diana Hagen and Jack Scott. Debra Murphy (a new player from Canyon Lake, Texas) and Tony Fiumara of Austin came in fourth. Tied for fifth and sixth place were Doug Paben and Dale Koteris, and Rene Roberts and Debbie Bowers.

Saturday night's handicap doubles drew 18 teams. This was a very emotional win for two of our favorite players, Mike Taylor and Tom French, who came in first. They both played great all night long, and had one heck of a cheering section. Diana Hagen and Flynt Preston came in second, with Ronnie McMahan and Rick Piefer taking third place.

Sunday's handicap singles drew in eight players, but there were plenty of side games going on during and after. First place went to (I sound like I'm repeating myself) Mike Taylor, with second going to Flynt Preston.

Special thanks to Kim Andrews and Jeri Billard for their help in collecting money. And thanks to Gene and Sarah (owners of Taz) for the food and drink specials. They bought another shuffleboard for us (that makes a total of five boards) and are a great support of shuffleboard.

REMINDER:

Reports, advertising, letters and other contributions must be received by the 15th of each month to appear in the next issue.

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Notebook *(continued from Page 2)*

Butch Says: One-Board Tournaments are Important

I would like to hear from all of the one-board tournaments. I know there are not a lot of players who will go to a one board tournament.

On our one board, on Monday nights at 7 p.m., we play a draw partner for \$12. You get one point for showing up and one point for every game you win, two points for second and three points for winning. \$2 from each player goes to the pot for the top eight players at the end of 16 weeks. \$1 from each goes to the person with the most points and \$9 for the payout for that night's event.

Butch Thomas and Keith Rayle, 1999 Hamilton County Doubles Champions, Noblesville, Indiana

We realize that these one-board tournaments keep the sport growing in local areas throughout The World of Shuffleboard. It has always been our policy to provide space for reports of tournaments, big and small and those in between, whether they have one board or 20-plus. Everyone likes to see their name in print; yet, we seldom hear from those one-board tournaments. Perhaps your letter will change that.

Kentucky Makes Holiday Open -- with Plans for More!

What a great time we had in Houston for the Holiday Open! The hospitality was over and above; it was nice being able to meet all the Texas folks up close and personal. Hats off to Johnny B, Jack Scott and all the diligent volunteers who put in all those long hours. Congratulations to Diana for her induction into the Texas Hall of Fame. Finally, thanks to all the late night players for the Texas Hold'em lesson.

The accommodations were superb -- hot tub, indoor/outdoor pool, sauna, and exercise room. Service overall was fantastic, especially in the playing area. Ashtrays were emptied, empty glasses removed, etc. Almost too good -- I happened to bring my own glass for drinks (Scotch) and at one point, one of the waitpeople picked it up while I was shooting and took it to the kitchen. A wonderful lady, Sue Webster, went in back, found the glass in the trash and gave the staff a piece of her mind.

We are very proud to have been able to make what we in Kentucky call the Triple Crown of

Shuffleboard: Del City in July, Reno in October, and Houston in December. We plan on expanding this list this year, God willing and the creeks don't rise.

Bulletin: We found a board in Louisville at American Legion Post 193. Thank you, Play Your Way Across the U.S.A. We got in their first tournament, but it went over to another week and we don't know the results. I put the finance director in touch with Lou Decker in Toledo and they are working on getting a new top for their board.

Mike and Susie Halstead, Shelbyville, Kentucky

We know you folks make lasting friendships wherever you go and will continue to do so. We hope you'll put Michigan on your travel agenda one of these days.

Glen "On the Road Again"

Austin, Texas -- I'm writing this in a parking lot of a grocery store in N. Austin. The tournament that Ron and Debbie Bowers ran (*editor's note: see Taz Country report*) was a great event with four boards. I can see why local hero Mike Taylor has earned the title of "Champ." My old running buddie Howard Mouton was there. He and Billy Melton played David and Bobby Williams 6-8 hours to finish two games down. There was some great games in this old town tonight.

This is a great time in our history of shuffleboard. We have come a long way in the past five years. We have a couple of shuffleboard players who are over the 80 mark. One is Joe Spratt of Texas who has a shuffleboard business, owns over 30 boards and keeps them going. Another is George Lucas, who is in the California Hall of Fame. He took us back to 1942 and has some great stories. I'm sure there are more.

Oklahoma City -- I'm back in Oklahoma and will be heading out to Blinky's in Santa Clara, California, for the induction of Hal Perry into the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame.

San Jose, California -- I woke up at Pay Bayless' apartment. Pat is retired and living the good life of a senior citizen who says: "Life is good." He is also one of the top players of San Jose. Thanks, Pat, for your hospitality. He couldn't do enough for me. He and Jolene Lembke came in second in the mixed doubles. Rick and Kathy Thomas were the winners. Rick said this was a first 1st place win for Kathy. Congrats to all of them.

Glen Davidson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, etc. etc.

Lots of Winners at Full House Labor Day Tourney

The Full House in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, hosted its annual Labor Day tournament in September 1999.

Winners of the 4-person team event was The Cyclones: Gerald Wood and Max Sukey of Stratford, Jennifer Brewer and Jerry Davenport of Wynnewood. Taking second place honors were Skip's Angels: Skip McCaskill, Pat Kinard, Jean Miller of Wynnewood, and Nancy Tice of Paul's Valley. In third place was Better Late Than Never: Jan Williams and Brenda Watts of Wynnewood, Shirley Hopkins of Stratford, and Ron Gamble.

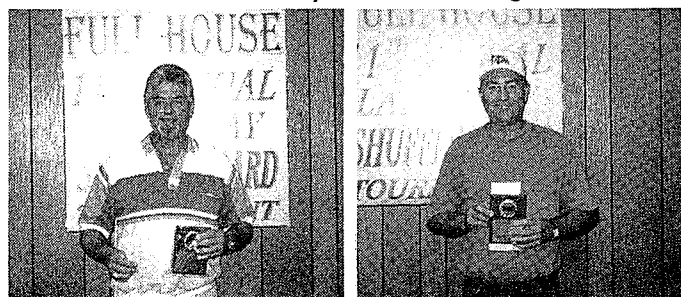


In the Sweetheart Draw, Nancy Tice and Shanon Tice (left) were the winners. Second place went to Gerald Wood of Oklahoma and Carol Ussey of Arkansas.

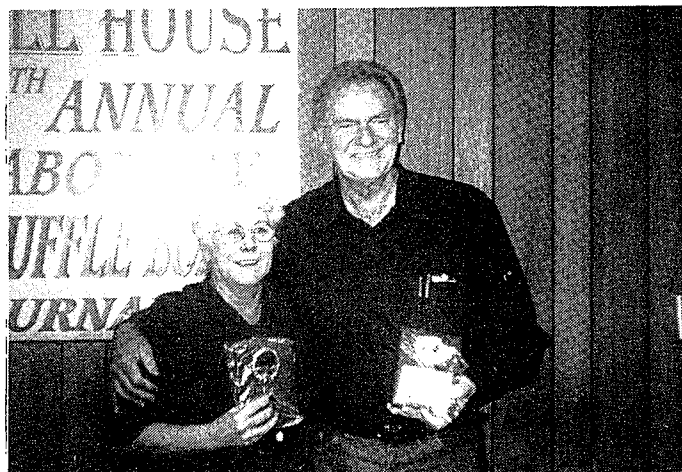
Third place went to Betty Melton of Davis and Dave Fleming of Oklahoma City.



Brenda Watts took first place in the singles.



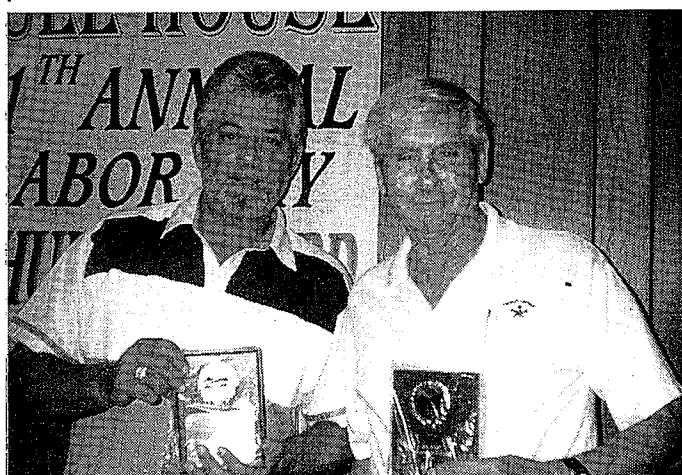
Tony Pelton (left) of Arkansas took second place, with Lynn Tice in third.



Winners of the bring your partner event were Arkansas visitors Dan and Carol Ussey.



Nancy Tice and Stephynee Renfro took second place honors.



Tony Pelton of Arkansas and Gene McLeod of Missouri took third place in the bring partner event.

In the open draw, first place went to Nancy and Shanon Tice. Tony Pelton and Glen Miller took second, with Rick Jones and Larry Morris in third place.

Full House hostess Pat Kinard said: "We certainly enjoyed the Arkansas people who participated in our tournament."

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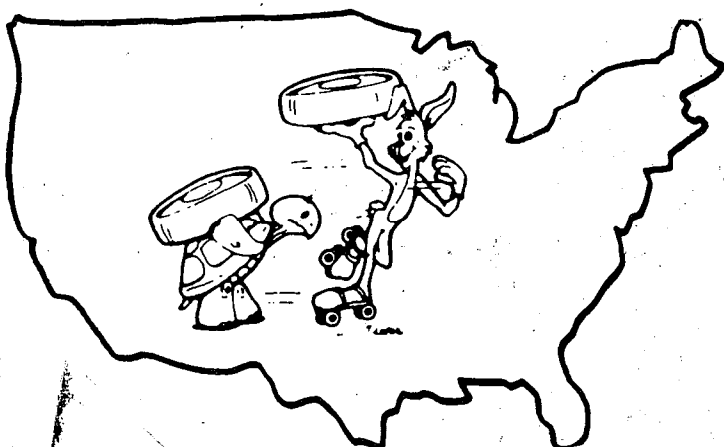
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